

MICKEY MANTLE POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (S. 171) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Commerce Street in Commerce, Oklahoma, as the "Mickey Mantle Post Office Building" was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 171

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MICKEY MANTLE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Commerce Street in Commerce, Oklahoma, shall be known and designated as the "Mickey Mantle Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Mickey Mantle Post Office Building".

GERALD R. FORD, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 49) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 North Frontage Road West in Vail, Colorado, as the "Gerald R. Ford, Jr. Post Office Building" was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

GALE W. MCGEE POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 335) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 152 North 5th Street in Laramie, Wyoming, as the "Gale W. McGee Post Office" was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

LANE EVANS POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 521) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2633 11th Street in Rock Island, Illinois, as the "Lane Evans Post Office Building" was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

SCIPIO A. JONES POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 433) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1700 Main Street in Little Rock, Arkansas, as the "Scipio A. Jones Post Office Building" was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

SERGEANT LEA ROBERT MILLS BROOKSVILLE AVIATION BRANCH POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 514) to designate the facility of the United States Postal

Service located at 16150 Aviation Loop Drive in Brooksville, Florida, as the "Sergeant Lea Robert Mills Brooksville Aviation Branch Post Office" was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

SERGEANT HENRY YBARRA III POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 577) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3903 South Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas, as the "Sergeant Henry Ybarra III Post Office Building" was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MEASURES DISCHARGED AND PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 194, S. 219, AND S. 412

Mr. REID. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the Homeland Security Committee be discharged and the following be placed on the calendar: S. 194, S. 219, and S. 412.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING THE 45TH ANNIVER- SARY OF JOHN HERSHEL GLENN, JR.'S HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 81 and the Senate then proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. Res. 81) recognizing the 45th anniversary of John Hershel Glenn, Jr.'s historic achievement in becoming the first United States astronaut to orbit the Earth.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I know the time is late and a lot of people want to go a lot of different places, but I have to say that John Glenn is one of the most amazing people I have ever known, to think that I had the opportunity to serve with him in this body, a man who was an ace in World War II, knocking down enemy aircraft in his marine vehicle. He was an ace in the Korean war and, of course, America's most famous astronaut.

I will just say in passing, when I first came here as a Senator, at our Tuesday luncheon, Senator Glenn said: Does anybody want to go with me? I am going to go out on the USS *Kennedy*, which is an aircraft carrier. He said: I am going to watch some landings. I said: Well, gee, John Glenn, aircraft carrier, which I have never been on. I said: I will try that. And I did.

It was interesting. We flew out in an airplane. It was stopped very quickly because a hook grabbed the airplane.

Then I watched these new pilots, who had never landed on an aircraft carrier, coming in, wings wobbling. They would wave some off: "Dirty, dirty"—that is the word they used to get this thing out of there. Lots of them landed.

Then John Glenn got in one of those planes and was catapulted off the aircraft carrier and came in on a landing himself. He is an amazing man.

I have one final story about John Glenn. My office was in the Hart Building. Nevada had the champions in double Dutch jump-roping. They were out in the atrium of the Hart Building showing me what they could do. It is amazing—several people jumping at the same time. They asked me to do it. I made—I wouldn't say a fool of myself, but I couldn't do it. I didn't realize John Glenn was standing watching this. Here is a man, at the time had to be 70 years old, and he walked over and said: Can I try that? He was like one of the kids. An amazing man.

This is a resolution recognizing the 45th anniversary of his historic achievement. Becoming the first U.S. astronaut to orbit the Earth is only one of the achievements this great man did—and he is still healthy and strong—with his wonderful wife Annie.

I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 81) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 81

Whereas John Herschel Glenn, Jr. was born on July 18, 1921, in Cambridge, Ohio, and grew up in New Concord, a small college town a few miles from the larger city of Zanesville, Ohio;

Whereas John Glenn attended New Concord High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from Muskingum College, which also awarded him an honorary Doctor of Science degree in engineering;

Whereas John Glenn enlisted in the Naval Aviation Cadet Program shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor and was commissioned in the United States Marine Corps in 1943;

Whereas John Glenn served in combat in the South Pacific and also requested combat duty during the Korean conflict.

Whereas John Glenn was a dedicated military officer, flying 149 missions during 2 wars;

Whereas John Glenn received many honors for his military service, among them the Distinguished Flying Cross on 6 occasions, the Air Medal with 18 Clusters, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the China Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Korean Service Medal;

Whereas John Glenn served several years as a test pilot on Navy and Marine Corps jet fighters and attack aircraft;

Whereas, as a test pilot, John Glenn set a transcontinental speed record in 1957 by completing the first flight to average supersonic speeds from Los Angeles to New York;

Whereas John Glenn was a pioneer in the realm of space exploration and was selected in 1959 as one of the original 7 astronauts in the United States space program, entering the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Project Mercury;

Whereas John Glenn was assigned to the NASA Space Task Group at Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia;

Whereas, in 1962, the Space Task Group was moved to Houston, Texas, and became part of the NASA Manned Spacecraft Center;

Whereas, on February 20, 1962, John Glenn piloted the Mercury-Atlas 6 "Friendship 7" spacecraft on the first manned orbital mission of the United States;

Whereas, after launching from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, John Glenn completed a 3-orbit mission around the planet, reaching an approximate maximum altitude of 162 statute miles and an approximate orbital velocity of 17,500 miles per hour;

Whereas John Glenn landed Friendship 7 approximately 5 hours later, 800 miles southeast of the Kennedy Space Center near Grand Turk Island;

Whereas, with that pioneering flight, John Glenn joined his colleagues Alan Shepard and Virgil Grissom in realizing the dream of space exploration and engaging the minds and imaginations of his and future generations in the vast potential of space exploration;

Whereas, after retiring from the space program, John Glenn continued his public service as a distinguished member of the Senate, in which he served for 24 years;

Whereas John Glenn has continued his public service through his work at the John Glenn Institute at Ohio State University, which was established to foster public involvement in the policy-making process, raise public awareness about key policy issues, and encourage continuous improvement in the management of public enterprise;

Whereas, in March 1999, Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley appointed John Glenn as Chair of the newly formed National Commission on Mathematics and Science Teaching for the 21st Century;

Whereas the Commission played a pivotal role in improving the quality of teaching in mathematics and science in the United States;

Whereas, in 1998, John Glenn returned to space after 36 years as a member of the crew of the space shuttle Discovery, serving as a payload specialist and as a subject for basic research on how weightlessness affects the body of an older person; and

Whereas, combined with his previous missions, John Glenn logged over 218 hours in space; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the 45th anniversary of John Hershel Glenn, Jr.'s landmark mission piloting the first manned orbital mission of the United States; and

(2) recognizes the profound importance of John Glenn's achievement as a catalyst to space exploration and scientific advancement in the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 30, S. Res. 69.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 69) recognizing the African-American spiritual as a national treasure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed at the appropriate place in the RECORD as if read, without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 69) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 69

Whereas since slavery was introduced into the European colonies in 1619, enslaved Africans remained in bondage until the United States ratified the 13th amendment to the Constitution in 1865;

Whereas during that period in the history of the United States, the first expression of a unique American music was created by enslaved African-Americans who—

(1) used their knowledge of the English language and the Christian religious faith, as it had been taught to them in the New World; and

(2) stealthily wove within the music their experience of coping with human servitude and their strong desire to be free;

Whereas as a method of survival, enslaved African-Americans who were forbidden to speak their native languages, play musical instruments they had used in Africa, or practice their traditional religious beliefs, relied on their strong African oral tradition of songs, stories, proverbs, and historical accounts to create an original genre of music, now known as spirituals;

Whereas Calvin Earl, a noted performer of, and educator on, African-American spirituals, remarked that the Christian lyrics became a metaphor for freedom from slavery, a secret way for slaves to "communicate with each other, teach their children, record their history, and heal their pain";

Whereas the New Jersey Historical Commission found that "some of those daring and artful runaway slaves who entered New Jersey by way of the Underground Railroad no doubt sang the words of old Negro spirituals like 'Steal Away' before embarking on their perilous journey north";

Whereas African-American spirituals spread all over the United States, and the songs we know of today may represent only a small portion of the total number of spirituals that once existed;

Whereas Frederick Douglass, a fugitive slave who would become one of the leading abolitionists in the United States, remarked that spirituals "told a tale of woe which was then altogether beyond my feeble comprehension; they were tones loud, long, and deep; they breathed the prayer and complaint of souls boiling over with the bitterest anguish. Every tone was a testimony against slavery and a prayer to God for deliverance from chains."; and

Whereas section 2(a)(1) of the American Folklife Preservation Act (20 U.S.C. 2101(a)(1)) states that "the diversity inherent in American folklife has contributed greatly to the cultural richness of the Nation and has fostered a sense of individuality and identity among the American people": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that African-American spirituals are a poignant and powerful genre of music that have become one of the most significant segments of American music in existence;

(2) expresses the deepest gratitude, recognition, and honor to the former enslaved Africans in the United States for their gifts to the Nation, including their original music and oral history; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to reflect on the important contribution of African-American spirituals to United States history and to recognize the African-American spiritual as a national treasure.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 976

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 976 has been received at the desk from the House, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 976) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small businesses, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading but object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will receive a second reading on the next legislative day.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding a recess/adjournment of the Senate, committees may report legislative and Executive Calendar business on Thursday, February 22, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

I would say, Mr. President, that is when the bill the Senate Republican leader and I were talking about will be reported, the homeland security matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORITY TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or inter-parliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro